

sermon notes

April 3, 2022 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship
Kingdom Called | "When Satan Scores a Momentary Victory" | 1 Thess 2:17-3:5

When Satan scores a momentary victory,

1) You _____ to your future _____ (2:17-20)

- a. *Jesus'* _____
- b. *The* _____ *of* _____
- c. *Eternity with* _____

2) You _____ (3:1-5)

Questions for further application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5. How was Paul "torn away" from the church in Thessalonica (see Acts 17:1-9)? Was Paul confident that the church would be okay or was he anxious for them? Is it okay to be anxious for those we care about? Is there such a thing as good anxiety? If so, when does good anxiety become bad anxiety?

As far as the demonic realm goes, what are some dangers of being "under-aware" of spiritual opposition? Is there any danger of being "over-aware" of the demonic realm? Is Satan allowed to accomplish anything outside of God's overarching authority? What Scriptures speak to this issue?

What is our future hope as Christians? What does Paul call his "joy" and "crown of boasting" at the coming of the Lord Jesus? What does this tell us about Paul's view of the church and church ministry?

GET PERSONAL

Paul concedes that Satan scored a victory on him in this passage (see 2:18). If Jesus is the King of the Universe, and we represent his "Kingdom" (see 2:12), how could Satan ever hinder us? What are some ways that Satan can hinder and oppose us in our lives? Describe a moment in your life where Satan was getting the best of you. How'd you get through that? What hope do you have in the midst of an intensive spiritual battle? Read the article "Satan's Ten Strategies Against You" by John Piper to help you think through these questions:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/satans-ten-strategies-against-you>

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

What are Christians destined for according to 3:4-5? Give some examples of how Christians experience this "destiny" in our day. What are some of your own experiences in this regard? What have you learned in this book about how to handle difficulties and afflictions in a way that honors God? What troubles in your life do you need to handle differently from this point forward? What's your plan for doing that?

ADVANCED QUESTION

Paul calls Timothy "God's coworker in the gospel of Christ" (3:2). Why would Paul use that language for Timothy (i.e. God's coworker)? Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. In what ways does God want to use you as his "coworker in the gospel"?